

We must begin to learn the lessons of Iraq. It should be more than clear by now that our national interests are damaged when policy makers bend intelligence. And we should all understand by now that accurate, objective intelligence requires analysts who are free to offer differing views. We face serious threats, from international terrorism to the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction. We have serious foreign policy concerns to address, from genocide to global climate change. Protecting our national security interests demands policymakers who seek objective intelligence on these and other challenges. Given his track record, John Bolton is clearly not that policymaker.

Another lesson of Iraq is the critical importance of American credibility. The inaccurate presentations made by our Government to the international community have done serious damage to our interests. If we are to gain the active support of other nations in confronting common threats such as terrorism and weapons of mass destruction, we will need to convince those nations of our views. To do so, we will need their trust. This challenge is especially complicated at the United Nations, where Secretary of State Colin Powell gave what turned out to be an almost entirely inaccurate presentation on Iraq, and where the administration dismissed all alternative views, including those of UN inspectors. Mr. Bolton is not the person to repair this damage. His record makes it extremely unlikely that he could rebuild our credibility in the international community in its most visible forum—the U.N.

The nomination of John Bolton is a lost opportunity for this administration to regain American leadership at the United Nations. It is also dangerous. Failure to gain support in the UN for our policies puts us at unnecessary risk. Simply put, we cannot afford an ineffective Ambassador at the United Nations.

COMMENDING RICHARD PRICE

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, today I rise to commend and thank Mr. Richard Price of the Congressional Research Service, CRS, for his many years of outstanding service to the U.S. Congress. In June, Mr. Price is retiring from CRS after 32 years of service. For over three decades at CRS, Mr. Price has played a significant role in providing assistance to Congress in analyzing major health care legislation. In his position at CRS, he has been an invaluable asset not only through his own work analyzing health care legislation, but also in his tireless efforts to guide others in the Health Care and Medicine unit at CRS which he managed.

Over the past three decades, Mr. Price has worked on health care legislation across a wide array of health care policy and programs. Mr. Price is

a recognized expert on the major U.S. health care financing programs—Medicare and Medicaid; his particular areas of expertise span most aspects of Medicare and Medicaid reimbursement policy, long-term care, Medicaid eligibility, nursing home reform, managed care, hospice care, skilled nursing home services, end stage renal disease, home health care services, and public health service programs, among many others. His contributions to the development of legislation in these areas have been substantial. Over his long career at CRS, he has helped hundreds of staff understand the effect of the legislative proposals being considered through thoughtful analyses, balanced presentations, and clear explanations. I wish to especially thank him for his work with the Senate Finance Committee and its staff.

In addition to his own analytic work on legislative analysis, Mr. Price has been responsible for management of a staff of CRS analysts who assist Congress across a wide spectrum of health care issues, including those related to Medicare, Medicaid, the Public Health Service, the Food and Drug Administration, the National Institutes of Health, and the Veterans Administration. Mr. Price was instrumental in building the health care staff of CRS to a large team of senior analysts. In addition, Mr. Price has been involved in innumerable projects to develop the capacity of CRS analysts to evaluate and analyze health care data, including models to estimate the effect of various legislative changes in Medicare and other health care programs.

Other organizations that analyze issues related to health care policy have acknowledged Mr. Price's accomplishments and knowledge of U.S. health care policy. For example, Mr. Price is a member of the steering committee of the National Health Policy Forum, a nonpartisan organization that provides research to senior level health policy makers in Washington. Mr. Price is also a member of the prestigious National Academy on Social Insurance, NASI.

Mr. Price's service to Congress in the analysis and development of policy alternatives across a wide array of health care programs, his ability to conceptualize complex public policy issues, as well as his leadership of staff who work on many varied and complex health care issues, set the highest standards for assistance provided by CRS in service to the Congress. He will be missed, both here in Congress and across the street at the Library of Congress.

RETIREMENT OF GEORGE W. MULLEN

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, I have sought recognition to honor George W. Mullen of Pennsylvania, who will step down as State Adjutant of the Pennsylvania Department of Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States this

June. George's retirement will mark the end of a distinguished 59 year career of service to our military, our veterans community, and our Nation.

George W. Mullen joined the United States Navy in 1943 at the age of 17 and served during World War II aboard the merchant ship *SS Ben Holt* and the destroyer *USS Cotton* in both the Atlantic and Pacific Theatres. While on active duty aboard the *Holt*, his ship arrived 2 days after the invasion of Normandy, France, to help supply Allied forces in the battle against Germany. His duty on the *Cotton* included helping rescue a downed American pilot and supporting the invasion of Okinawa.

George worked at the Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Coatesville for 35 years before becoming the Pennsylvania Veterans of Foreign Wars State Adjutant in 1983. As a member of the Pennsylvania War Veterans Council and the Pennsylvania State Veterans Commission, he has been a familiar face to governors and many State and Federal legislators who have sought his guidance.

Mr. Mullen, who lives in Parkesburg, has touched many lives and that has not gone unnoticed. He has been honored at the local, State and national level for his many contributions. While humble in service to others, George has always stood for what is right and remains a staunch supporter of our troops.

His will be hard shoes to fill, and he will be missed. We wish George and his wife Dawn well in future endeavors, and thank him for his dedication to duty, hard work, and professionalism.

ONLINE FREEDOM OF SPEECH ACT

Mr. BURNS. Mr. President, I rise today to express my support for the Online Freedom of Speech Act which my colleague Senator REID has introduced. This legislation clarifies the campaign finance legislation of 2002 in order to restore freedom of speech to the Internet.

The Internet is more than a remarkable new technology. It's a means of bringing people together. I read somewhere that the most important time in a person's development is the first 5 years. Things that happen during infancy have dramatic effects on how that child will develop for the rest of their life. The Internet is no different. It is a technology in its infancy. We are fortunate to live in an exciting time of great technological change. In my State of Montana, cutting-edge technology is creating jobs and industry. But like anything in its infancy, we should be very careful about how we respond to technological infants like the Internet. A wrong step now could affect how it develops for the next 100 years.

For this reason, the Bipartisan Campaign Reform Act of 2002 did not identify the Internet as a target of regulation. However, it also did not specifically exclude it. When the FEC decided how to enforce the regulatory measures of the new law, they erred on the side of caution and exempted the Internet from their regulatory scope.

The fruits of that decision have been profound. According to a Pew Internet

and American Life Project survey, two thirds of adult Americans, or 136 million citizens, use the Internet. For youth, that number is even higher. Over half of the adults who use the Internet used it during the 2004 campaign cycle. They used it to obtain news and determine candidate positions. They viewed websites for campaigns and advocacy groups. They looked for information to register to vote. They followed opinion polls, looked at jokes, and checked the validity of rumors. They emailed one another about the election, and received email newsletters from candidates and advocacy groups. By a 10 to 1 margin, these Americans said that the Internet was a positive addition to public debate in the 2004 campaign. In the past several years, the Internet has become a powerful way for the American People to voice their opinions on everything from car parts to hair styles to political elections.

The Internet has been utilized by Americans representing the numerous ideologies of all the political parties. It is not Republican. It is not Democrat. It is not rich or poor. The Internet, like this country, is the mixture of all of those things together. It has become the newest and most dynamic melting pot of ideas.

But all this may be threatened because in 2004 a Federal court here in Washington, DC, instructed the FEC to begin regulating the Internet. The FEC has begun working out the details for this new regulatory framework, and right now we can see what that process looks like. I'll tell you this. It's not easy to understand. There are experts who don't understand it all. There are thousands of pages of comments and proposals.

The Online Freedom of Speech Act can clean up this entire mess with 8 simple lines of legislation.

In 1996, I was a co-founder of the Congressional Internet Caucus. Today, there are 176 members of this caucus from both parties and in both the Senate and the House of Representatives. These members have pledged to uphold the following: Promoting growth and advancement of the Internet; providing a bicameral, bipartisan forum for Internet concerns to be raised; promoting the education of Members of Congress and their staffs about the Internet; promoting commerce and the free flow of information on the Internet; advancing the United States' world leadership in the digital world; and maximizing the openness of and participation in government by the people.

I helped found this caucus because I understand the importance of careful treatment of this technology in its infancy. Government tends to want to regulate, and regulation can stunt growth. I am very concerned that without legislation like the Online Freedom of Speech Act, the First Amendment rights of Americans, from Montana and throughout the rest of the country, will be severely damaged.

Experts have warned that at the very least, proposed online regulation will subject Internet advocates, like bloggers, to the prospect of FEC investigations. That can mean subpoenas, lawyers, increased government payrolls and bureaucracy. Such investigations are not only a huge commitment for the FEC, but a serious threat to free speech online.

One of the things that makes the Internet unique is that it is so broadly accessible. Compared to more traditional forms of publication it is very cheap to publish on the Internet. As little as 20 years ago, the only way for someone's ideas to reach the full Marketplace of Ideas was to secure access to a printing press or broadcast center.

But as I said, the Internet is much different, now allowing anyone to promote his or her ideas into the marketplace. Internet media doesn't crowd out other competing media. And since everyone can have their say, the reader is the one who gets to decide what he or she wants to read. We need to be mindful of allowing the government to try to limit the choices of what the consumer can make.

Mr. President, as you can see, regulatory standards for the Internet must be much different than for other forms of public communication. The traditional arguments for traditional media do not apply here.

Some of my colleagues may think that there must be some regulation of the Internet for some types of political speech. However, before we choose to regulate this infant technology, we need learned-testimony and debate on this issue by discussing this bill. We need to make sure that regulation is the best course of action. Accordingly, I urge my colleagues to join me in support for the Online Freedom of Speech Act.

BAKERS CREEK TRAGEDY

Mr. SANTORUM. Mr. President, I rise today to offer remarks on the tragedy that occurred on June 14, 1943 at Bakers Creek, Australia. On that day, 40 members of the U.S. Armed Forces, six of whom were from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, lost their lives when the B-17C Flying Fortress airplane that they were flying in crashed at Bakers Creek, Australia. This tragedy marked the worst aviation disaster of the Southwest Pacific Theater during World War II.

I understand that at approximately 6 a.m. on June 14, 1943, the B-17C Flying Fortress transporting six crew members and thirty-five soldiers that were returning from leave in Australia departed from Mackay Airport in Bakers Creek for Port Moresby, when shortly after takeoff, the plane lost altitude and subsequently crashed. The sole survivor of this crash was Corporal Foye Kenneth Roberts of Wichita Falls, Texas.

This June will mark the 62nd anniversary of the Bakers Creek crash. I

applaud the work of Dr. Robert S. Cutler and the Bakers Creek Memorial Association for their research and tireless dedication to ensuring that the memory of those who perished at Bakers Creek, Australia in 1943 never be forgotten.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

CONGRATULATING THE WINNERS OF THE NEW HAMPSHIRE EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION AWARDS

• Mr. SUNUNU. Mr. President, I wish to congratulate the winners of the 2005 New Hampshire Excellence in Education Awards. These awards, otherwise known as the "ED"ies, are given to those individuals and schools that have exhibited the highest standards of excellence in curriculum and instruction, teaching and learning process, student achievement, leadership and decision-making, community and parental involvement, and school climate.

On June 4, 2005, 30 individuals, 2 school boards and 6 schools were recognized for their leadership and outstanding dedication in preparing their students for our rapidly changing workplace. I am honored to lend my voice to those of their colleagues, students, and communities in conveying our appreciation and respect for the professionals they are and the sacrifices and contributions they make every day in classrooms throughout the Granite State.

Nominees consist of some of New Hampshire's finest teachers and community leaders. They are carefully reviewed by selection committees that apply standards developed by The Board of Directors for the New Hampshire Excellence in Education Awards. Nominees come from elementary, middle and secondary schools, as well as higher education. Many are honored in specific categories of excellence such as art education, world languages, school nursing, counseling and technology.

As a student in Salem, I was privileged to have had many great teachers at every level of my education. Today, as a parent looking back on that experience, I see even more clearly the great impact they've had on my life. Not only did they provide an environment conducive to learning, but each in their own way provided me with the direction necessary to succeed.

Like the classroom heroes I knew growing up in Salem, the group of educators chosen this year for the "ED"ies have demonstrated superior dedication and service to their students, schools and communities. They richly deserve this prestigious honor for the important roles they play in helping our children reach their goals and succeed in school. The teachers, principals, counselors, librarians and other school leaders being commended this year have provided students with the tools